

Message Text

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66620
DRAFTED BY:EA/K:PRMAYHEW
APPROVED BY:EA-MR HUMMEL
IO-MR LORENZ

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R 151918Z JUL 76
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY SEOUL
INFO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA
AMEMBASSY TOKYO
CINCUNC
COMUSKJAPAN
CINCPAC

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 175371

LIMDIS

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (PARA 3, LINE 5 OMITTED)

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, MARR, UN, KS, AS

SUBJECT: THIRD COUNTRY PARTICIPATION IN UNC (REAR)

REF: STATE 156182

1. IN CALL ON ASSISTANT SECRETARY HUMMEL JULY 15, AUSTRALIAN MINISTER FLOOD POSED TWO QUESTIONS ON BEHALF OF FOREIGN MINISTER PEACOCK. FIRST WAS HAVING IN MIND AUSTRALIA'S DESIRE TO PLAY AN INDEPENDENT ROLE IN THE UNGA AND WORK WITH ASEANS AND OTHERS TO DETERMINE IF CONSENSUS RESOLUTION ON THE KOREAN QUESTION POSSIBLE, CONFIDENTIAL

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DOES THE US CONSIDER THE ADVANTAGES OF PARTICIPATION IN UNC (REAR) TO OUTWEIGH POTENTIAL INDEPENDENT ROLE IN UNGA FOR AUSTRALIA ON THE KOREAN QUESTION? SECOND QUESTION WAS A REQUEST FOR INFORMATION ON THE SIGNIFICANCE

OF AUSTRALIANS REPLACING THAI DETACHMENT; HOW IMPORTANT
DO WE REGARD IT THAT AUSTRALIA REPLACE THAI?

2. MR. HUMMEL SAID THAT WE REGARDED CONTINUANCE OF US
SOFA AS IMPORTANT SYMBOL OF MULTILATERAL IMAGE OF THE
UNC AND AS DEMONSTRATION OF CONTINUED MULTILATERAL INTEREST
IN IT. SOFA ALSO HAD POTENTIAL OPERATIONAL SIGNIFICANCE
IF THERE WAS A CONTINGENCY IN KOREA THAT INVOLVED THIRD
COUNTRIES. ASSISTANT SECRETARY WENT ON TO NOTE THAT

WE DID NOT SEE NECESSARY CONFLICT BETWEEN AUSTRALIA'S
PARTICIPATION IN UNC (REAR) AND ITS PLAYING AN INDEPEN-
DENT ROLE IN THE UNGA. WE BELIEVE LATTER WAS QUITE POSSI-
WITH PARTICIPATION IN UNC (REAR), AND IT COULD BE ARGUED
THAT SUCH PARTICIPATION STRENGTHENED AUSTRALIAN POSITION
IN THAT IT DEMONSTRATED THAT AUSTRALIA FELT STRONGLY
ENOUGH ABOUT THE KOREAN QUESTION TO MAKE ADDITIONAL
CONTRIBUTION TO UNC.

3. MINISTER FLOOD ALSO ASKED IF WE WOULD ANTICIPATE
ANY NEGATIVE REACTION FROM THE JAPANESE ON AUSTRALIAN
PARTICIPATION. MR. HUMMEL POINTED OUT THAT GOJ HAD TOLD
US THEY BELIEVE CONTINUATION OF THE SOFA IS DESIRABLE.
WE BELIEVED ANY ADVERSE REACTION BY JAPANESE POLITICAL
OPPOSITION COULD CERTAINLY BE HANDLED BY GOJ. MINISTER
ALSO REPORTED THAT GOA HAD ASKED ITS EMBASSY IN JAPAN
WHETHER THE JAPANESE WOULD SEE AN AUSTRALIAN CONTRIBU-
TION TO UNC (REAR) AS IN ANY WAY AFFECTING OR INCONSIS-
TENT WITH AUSTRALIA'S RECENTLY SIGNED FRIENDSHIP, COM-
MERCE AND NAVIGATION TREATY WITH JAPAN. KISSINGER

CONFIDENTIAL

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To: SEOUL INFO CANBERRA
TOKYO
CINCUNC
COMUSKJAPAN
CINCPAC

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